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ABSTRACT

This book presents the perspectives of experts from the fields of history, economics, political science, and psychology on what is known about accountability, what still needs to be learned, what should be done right now, and what should be avoided in devising accountability systems. The common myths about accountability are dispelled and how it may be the best hope for improving public schools is shown. After the foreword (John Raisian) and "Introduction and Overview" (Williamson M. Evers and Herbert J. Walberg), the papers focus on: "Testing and Accountability, Historically Considered" (Diane Ravitch); "Real Accountability in K-12 Education: The Marriage of Ted and Alice" (Chester E. Finn, Jr.); "The Cost of Accountability" (Caroline M. Hoxby); "Sorting Out Accountability Systems" (Eric A. Hanushek and Margaret E. Raymond); "State Accountability Systems" (Lance T. Izumi and Williamson M. Evers); and "Principles for Accountability Designs" (Herbert J. Walberg). Information about the contributors and an index are included. (SM)

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